RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The answer is in the negative.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: May I know whether the Government are aware that there is shortage of agricultural labour in the State on account of the recruitment to the Labour Force?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: There is no doubt that the available labour will be affected to some extent. But this is one of the paramount needs for the war effort and therefore Government are encouraging this recruitment.

Registration of documents.

91. ***SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA** (*Nominated*): With reference to the statement contained in the Report on the Administration of the Registration Department for 1118, to the effect that the percentage of documents registered on the day of presentation was 84·74 against 99·22 in 1117, will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) the reasons for such a decline; and

(ii) whether steps have been taken to see that as far as possible documents presented are registered on the day of presentation itself, especially in view of the fact that very often the parties, many of whom are women and elderly persons, hail from distant villages?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER (*Secretary to Government*): (i) Phenomenal increase in the number of documents presented for registration.

(ii) Fifteen additional offices were opened and 188 temporary clerks were appointed in the course of 1118 to promote the convenience of the public. There are departmental circulars directing Sub-Registrars to give preference to women, old persons and people coming from a distance.

Registration affecting immovable property.

92. ***SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA:** With reference to the registration affecting immovable property dealt with in the latest Administration Report of the Registration Department will the Government be pleased to state whether the implications and repercussions of the state of affairs disclosed by the following statement, *viz.*, that "of the 236,989 mortgages and 224,717 sales, 80,820 mortgages and 68,308 sales formed alienations made by agriculturists in favour of non-agriculturists, against 55,835 mortgages and 39,062 sales in 1117" have been considered by the Economic Development Board or any other agency of the Government, and if so, what steps have been taken or suggested to improve the position?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: The question is engaging the attention of Government.

Education of youthful offenders.

93. ***SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA:** With reference to the statement contained in the Report on the Administration of the Central Prison for 1118 that there is much scope for improvement in respect of the education of youthful offenders, and that proposals are being formulated for the sanction of the Government, will the Government be pleased to state:

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(i) whether the proposals have been received by the Government;

(ii) if so, what the nature of the proposals is; and

(iii) whether action has been taken thereon?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER (i) Yes.

(ii) The proposals generally are—

(*a*) that education may be made compulsory for all the prisoners below the age of 30 and (*b*) that a full time qualified teacher may be appointed for the purpose.

(iii) These proposals were referred to the Committee appointed for the revision of Jail Rules. The Committee have embodied these proposals in the revised Central Prison Rules which are under the consideration of Government.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: May I know whether any definite scheme has been submitted to Government?

MR. C. P. GOPALA PANICKER: Yes, Sir.

Irrigation sluice near the Marika Bridge, Todupuzha taluk.

94. ***MR. P. M. VARGHESE** (*Minachil* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state

(*a*) whether they are aware that the proposed irrigation sluice near the Marika Bridge in Todupuzha taluk would result in the conversion of more than two hundred acres of dry lands into double crop paddy fields;

(*b*) why the investigation of the above scheme commenced in the year 1105 was dropped half done; and

(*c*) whether they would immediately take up the scheme?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Due to difference of opinion about the available flow.

(*c*) The matter will be considered, if the ryots agree to bear their share of the cost of the work according to the Irrigation Act.

MR. P. M. VARGHESE: അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസം എന്നതു് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലുള്ള അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസമോ അതൊ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറും പബ്ലിക്കും തമ്മിലുള്ള അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസമോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: ആ തോട്ടിൽ ആവശ്യത്തിനുള്ള വെള്ളം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുമോ ഇല്ലയോ എന്നു ഇതേവരെ നിശ്ചയപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടില്ല.

MR. P. M. VARGHESE: അതു നിശ്ചയിക്കേണ്ടതു് പബ്ലിക്കാണോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറാണോ?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: ജനങ്ങളം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ആലോചിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

MR. P. M. VARGHESE: ജനങ്ങളം അതിനെപ്പറ്റി വേണ്ടവണ്ണം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു വേണ്ട അനേഷണം നടത്തിയിട്ടില്ല എന്നു മെമ്പർ ധരിക്കുമോ?

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